

NMA professional society open to everyone at Hanford

Many Hanford employees don't realize they are eligible to join the National Management Association or that NMA is not just for managers. NMA has served Hanford for nearly a quarter of a century now and remains Hanford's largest professional society.

NMA has changed a lot through the years at Hanford. The current chapter traces its roots to Rockwell Hanford in the fall of 1977 when still-active member John Deichman served as president. The early members included Don Hart of Duratek Federal Services, who will be installed as NMA's national chairman later this month. Dewey Robbins, the current chairman of the chapter board of directors joined a few years later on.

The chapter's roots also include "sister" chapters on site that were sponsored by United Nuclear Corporation, J.A. Jones, Kaiser Engineers and Westinghouse Hanford. The Westinghouse and Kaiser chapters merged to form the present chapter in 1997.

When current chapter president Terry Winward of BAT joined the Rockwell chapter in 1984, the chapter served



NMA members' community involvement includes the annual American Enterprise speech contest. Ed Schwier of Fluor Hanford (left), and Kelly Layfield of Lockheed Martin Services (right) are shown with last spring's Columbia Basin Area Council winners Rene Rojas, Aaron Jameson and Sana Zuberi

only one contractor, and only managers and senior-level individual contributors could join. Only about 10 percent were women. Now everyone at Hanford is welcome to join, and there are nearly as many women members as men.



Don Hart of Duratek Federal Services, a member of the Hanford NMA chapter, will be installed as chairman of NMA's national board of directors later this month in Denver.

Goals the same

NMA hasn't changed much in what it stands for — only in the organizations it serves, which now include all Hanford contractors and Department of Energy offices. To communicate its message and goals to all organizations and their top leaders can be a challenge.

Some, but not all, Hanford organizations use NMA very effectively as a management development tool. The Hanford NMA chapter excels in professional development, community service, networking, publications and management certification. Courses sponsored locally by NMA are inexpensive and broad-ranging in subject matter, and some company sponsors are starting to use the courses as main training vehicles.

Winward feels that the networking in NMA is one of its most important offerings. "NMA is a place where you can network with many leaders from many companies and the Department of Energy at the same time and place," said Winward. "NMA levels the field, as all members are considered equals. There is hardly a company president out there that doesn't know who I am, and I can't believe how much it has helped me in my jobs at Hanford."

Continued on page 12.

NMA professional society open to everyone at Hanford, cont.

Highly rated chapter

Hanford's NMA chapter is rated among the best in the nation. Winward has chosen as the theme for the year, "The Walk of Champions," reflecting the four national NMA chapter contests. Last year, under president Judie Winters of CH2M HILL Hanford Group, Hanford Chapter 395 was named an outstanding chapter. Theresa Quezada of Fluor Hanford led the chapter to its third straight national Community Service Award — its eighth in recent years. The *Leading Edge*, the chapter's monthly publication edited by Becky Curtis of CH2M HILL Hanford Group, has been recognized as the best in the nation for the past two years. The Professional Development and Membership Increase awards are targets for this next year.

This year, Winward's focus is on professional development, with the goal of significantly increasing the training opportunities and bringing stability and excellence to NMA programs. "We have a chapter full of heroes," he said. "All we need to do is facilitate and energize their actions."

So what will NMA mean to you as an individual?

"Come join us and become part of the process," said Winward. "You will learn on the fly and will be as successful as you allow yourself to be."

The Hanford chapter is having a membership drive during September and October. During the drive, \$10 will be waived from the joining fee and each new member can attend the seminar of his or her choice free of charge — a \$25 value. ♦

		Distribution questions: call the Mailroom, 375-5170
Keith Klein, Manager DOE Richland Operations Office		Harry Boston, Manager DOE Office of River Protection
DOE Richland Operations Office Guy Schein, A7-75, 376-0413, fax 376-1563		The Hanford Reach is published weekly for all employees of the U.S. Department of Energy's Hanford Site.
DOE Office of River Protection Diane Stock, H6-60, 376-4751, fax 372-1215		
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Hanford Environmental Health Foundation Jon Davidson, H1-52, 376-4414, fax 372-3139		
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory Katie Larson, K1-55, 375-3698, fax 375-2221		
		Hanford Reach, B3-30 Fluor Hanford P.O. Box 1000, Richland, WA 99352 Fax: 376-5704 e-mail: Hanford_Reach@rl.gov Phone: (509) 376-4639